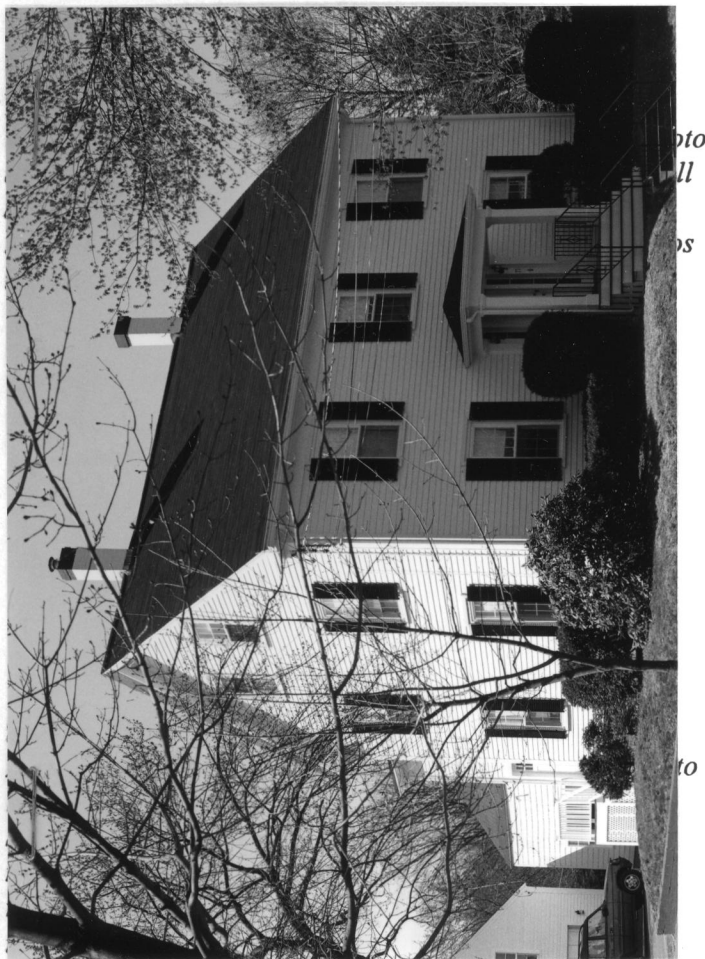


# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

0062000007

Boston N.

711, 712, 713

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 71 East St.

Historic Name Timothy K. Fiske House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1873–1874

Source Lexington Valuation lists

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Two barns (one attached)

Major Alterations (with dates)

Barns converted to garages (dates unknown)

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 3.9 A.

Setting On an open lot across the street from an 18th-century house but in a neighborhood of predominantly 20th-century houses



Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

71 East St. (MHC #711) is one of the relatively few side-gabled, three-bay Italianate farmhouses in Lexington that still has its associated barn. The house is rectangular with a rear ell, 2½ stories, three-by-two bays, and side-gabled with two small ridge chimneys. It is set on a brick foundation, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. The three-by-one bay two-story rear ell, also on a brick foundation, has a very low-pitched front-gabled roof with a small side chimney and a rear wall clad with flushboards. The center entrance in the main block is flanked by full-length sidelights and covered with a roof supported by square pilastered posts. This part of the house has 6/6 double hung windows, a frieze board on both the front and rear elevations, and cornerboards. The 1½-story side-gabled barn attached to the ell (MHC #712) is clad with wood shingles and is now used as a two-car garage; near it is a 1½-story, front-gabled, one-by-six bay barn/garage (MHC #713).

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ see continuation sheet

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built in 1873 by Timothy K. Fiske (1831–1916), who bought the land on which it stands on August 2, 1873, and immediately began the house, for the *Lexington Minute-man* noted on August 23: “Mr. T.K. Fiske has commenced the cellar of his new house on East St.” The house was completed by 1874 when Fiske was assessed \$2200 for it. Timothy was a grandson of Dr. Joseph Fiske (1752–1837) and son of Joseph Fiske (1797–1860), both of whom had owned the house across the street (70 East St., MHC #710). Timothy and his wife Barbara Peters, whose family had come to Lexington in 1855 and since 1860 had lived in the house now at 49 East St. (MHC #709), lived at the 70 East St. house from the time of their marriage in 1857 until they moved to this house in 1874. Timothy Fiske was a farmer and house painter and this property included a shop where he mixed his paints. After Timothy’s death the property was acquired in 1919 by his son William E. Fiske and then, in 1949, by Paul R. Keeler, a relative of Charles H. Harrington, who had married Timothy’s daughter Annie Laura.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

- Fiske, Mary Abbie. Notes on Old Fiske House. “Houses file,” Worthen Collection, Cary Library, Lexington, MA.  
Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society.  
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913. 2: 217, 285.  
*Lexington Minute-man*, 23 August 1873.  
Lexington Valuation lists. 1873–1875.  
Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. 1271: 536; 4257: 174; 7429: 232.  
Sileo, Thomas P. “Then & Now.” *Lexington Minuteman*, 5 October 1995.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town  
Lexington

Property Address  
71 East St.  
Area(s) Form No.

711, 712, 713



Roll #17, Negative #13



Roll #17, Negative #12